

Risk assessment – Mini Pioneering

Name of activity, event, and location	Squirrels goes nuts September 14th Tatton park campsite	Date of risk assessment	3 rd September 2024	Name of person doing this risk assessment	Mel Black
		Date of next review	2 nd September 2025		

What could go wrong? What hazard have you identified? What are the risks from it?	Who is at risk?	What are you going to do about it? How are the risks already controlled? What extra controls are needed? How will they be communicated to young people and adults and remain inclusive to all needs?	Review & revise What has changed that needs to be thought about and controlled?
A hazard is something that may cause harm or damage. The risk is the harm that may occur from the hazard.	For example: young people, adult volunteers, visitors	Controls are ways of making the activity safer by removing or reducing the risk. For example, you may use a different piece of equipment or you might change the way you do the activity.	Keep checking throughout the activity in case you need to change what you're doing or even stop the activity. This is a great place to add comments which will be used as part of the review.
Physical Injury from Stick		Supervise children closely - Inspect and select appropriate sticks (no sharp ends, no thorns) - Encourage safe handling - Provide gloves if necessary	
Tripping or Falling		Ensure the area is clear of obstacles - Teach children to keep materials organized - Supervise activity to prevent running near structures	
Injury from String		Demonstrate safe tying techniques - Use child-friendly string (soft, thick) - Ensure string is cut to appropriate lengths beforehand - Supervise closely to prevent wrapping string around fingers or neck	
Eye Injury from Pointed Sticks		Supervise closely - Avoid using sharp, thin sticks - Instruct children to carry sticks pointing downward - Enforce wearing of safety goggles, if necessary	
Allergic Reactions		Check for known allergies in advance - Inspect materials for potential allergens - Have first-aid kits on hand - Encourage handwashing after handling natural materials	
Sun Exposure/Heatstroke		Ensure activity takes place in shaded areas or with breaks - Provide water regularly - Encourage wearing of hats and sunscreen	
Improper Use of Tools		Only use blunt tools suitable for children's age - Provide demonstrations of safe use - Ensure strict adult supervision when using any tools	

You can find more information in the Safety checklist for leaders and at scouts.org.uk/safety

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Lifting/Carrying Heavy Materials		Instruct children not to lift overly large or heavy items - Provide help or buddy systems for carrying materials - Teach proper lifting techniques (bend knees)	
Inadequate Supervision		Ensure an appropriate adult-to-child ratio - Assign specific roles for supervising adults - Provide clear instructions and establish ground rules for children	

Control Measures in Detail:

Pre-Activity Briefing:

Explain safety rules to children before starting the activity.

Demonstrate how to safely handle sticks and string.

Set clear boundaries for the activity area.

First Aid Kit available on-site

Don't forget, as part of your programme planning, you should have contingency activities in reserve just in case you can't do what was planned or you need to stop half way through. Make sure this is shared with those involved, so everyone knows how to respond. You should have risk assessed contingency activities prior to them taking place and communicated key information to those involved as with all activities.

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